MARVEL COMICS
MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS
WOLVERINE
?
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AND
THE INCREDIBLE
HULK
BUT WHO
IS THEIR
MYSTERIOUS
FOE?!
PLUS 3 MORE
ALL-NEW
FEATURES!

MARVEL® COMICS PRESENTS

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WOLVERINE 1

On The Road
Part 5 of 8

"YOU CAN RUN . . . BUT YOU CAN'T HIDE"

Wolverine is in hiding—but then who's fighting the *Incredible Hulk*?! Will the Hulk survive long enough to discover the answers?!

Writer — MICHAEL HIGGINS
Penciler — DAVE ROSS
Inker — DAN DAY
Letterer — TODD KLEIN
Colorist — BRAD VANCATA

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WEREWOLF 9

Children of the Beast
Part 5

"COMMUNION"

Mortally wounded in combat with the maddened pack of werewolf bikers called *The Braineaters*, Jack Russell, *Werewolf*, faces a confrontation that will mean either final death—or rebirth.

Writer — LEN KAMINSKI
Penciler — JIM FRY
Inker — BRAD JOYCE
Letterer — BRAD JOYCE
Colorist — GREGORY WRIGHT

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SUB-MARINER 17

Neptune's Eye
Part 2 of 3

"THE OLD MAN IN THE SEA"

Anxious to forget the pain of his beloved Marrina's death, Namor accompanies an ambitious film director into the treacherous Neptune's Eye, while the embattled expedition sent to study the Eye nervously awaits their return . . .

Writer — ROBERT DENATALE
Penciler — MIKE COLLINS
Inker — MARK FARMER
Letterer — PHIL FELIX
Colorist — KELLY P. CORVESE

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"NEUTRALIZING EFFECTS"

Tony Stark is the genius behind Stark Enterprises, a world leader in advanced technology. His invincible armor enables him to perform technological miracles, using advanced electromagnetics to move nearly any object, repulsor rays to blast through any barrier and many other incredible inventions to meet every need. This is a tale from back in the beginning of his career. . .

Writer — STEVE DITKO
Scripter — HOLLIS BRIGHT
Penciler — STEVE DITKO
Inker — CHRIS IVY
Letterer — JIM MASSARA
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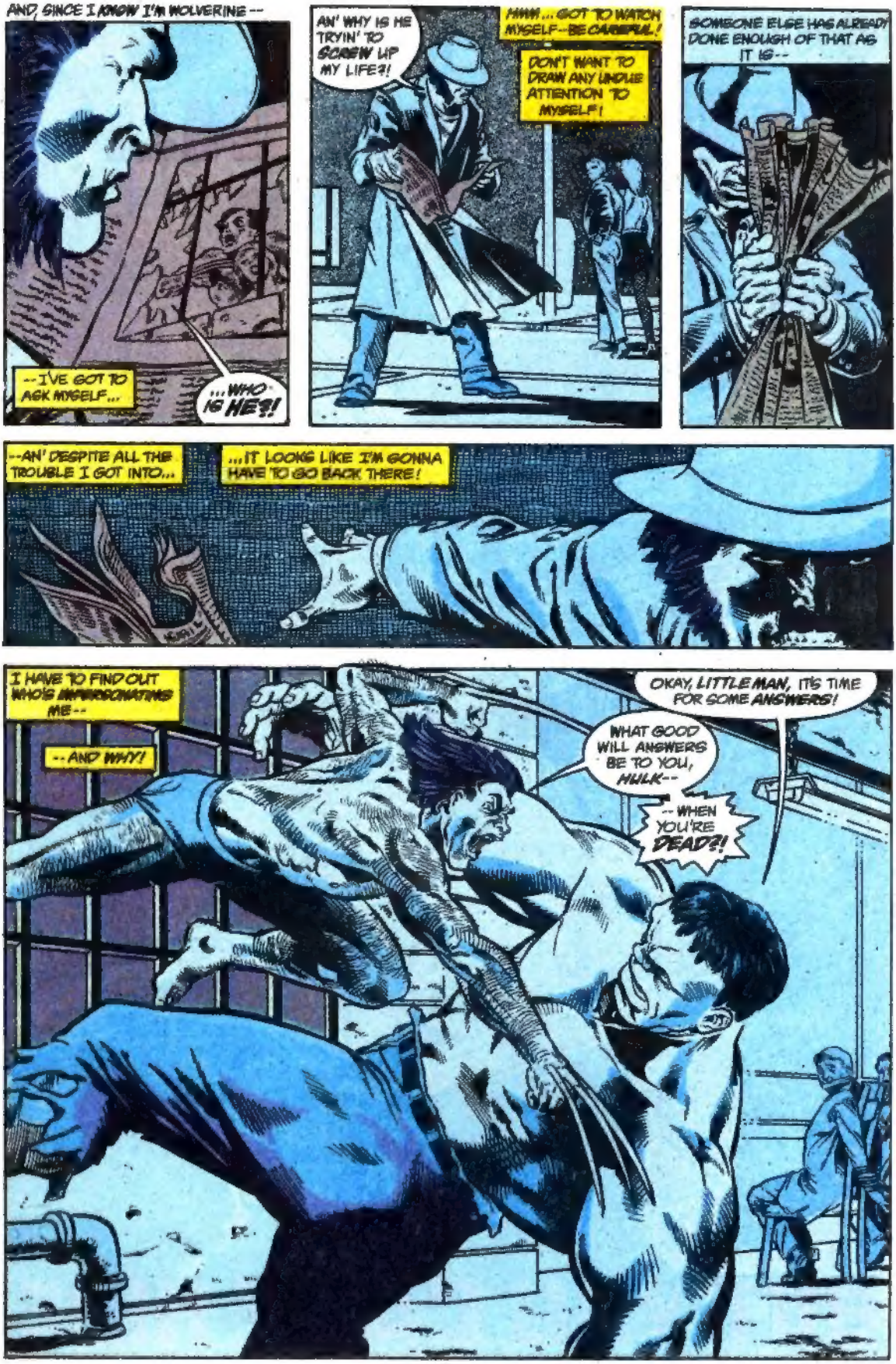
ON THE ROAD with WOLVERINE and the HULK
PART 5
YOU CAN RUN...
WHERE I AM HARDLY MATTERS.
THE FACT THAT I AM ALIVE AT ALL IS REMARKABLE.
31
FINE DINING AND TAVERN
Gregorio's
THE REASON I'M A WANTED MAN IS A MYSTERY TO ME.
THE FACT THAT I'M WOLVERINE MEANS I'M GOING TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT ALL THIS --
--ONLY, WHERE DO I EVEN BEGIN?
BUT YOU CAN'T HIDE


AND, SINCE I KNOW I'M WOLVERINE --
--I'VE GOT TO ASK MYSELF...
...WHO IS HE?!
AN' WHY IS HE TRYIN' TO SCREW UP MY LIFE?!
MMM... GOT TO WATCH MYSELF--BE CAREFUL!
DON'T WANT TO DRAW ANY UNDUE ATTENTION TO MYSELF!
SOMEONE ELSE HAS ALREADY DONE ENOUGH OF THAT AS IT IS--
--AN' DESPITE ALL THE TROUBLE I GOT INTO...
...IT LOOKS LIKE I'M GONNA HAVE TO GO BACK THERE!
I HAVE TO FIND OUT WHO'S IMPERSONATING ME--
--AND WHY!
OKAY, LITTLE MAN, IT'S TIME FOR SOME ANSWERS!
WHAT GOOD WILL ANSWERS BE TO YOU, HULK--
--WHEN YOU'RE DEAD?!

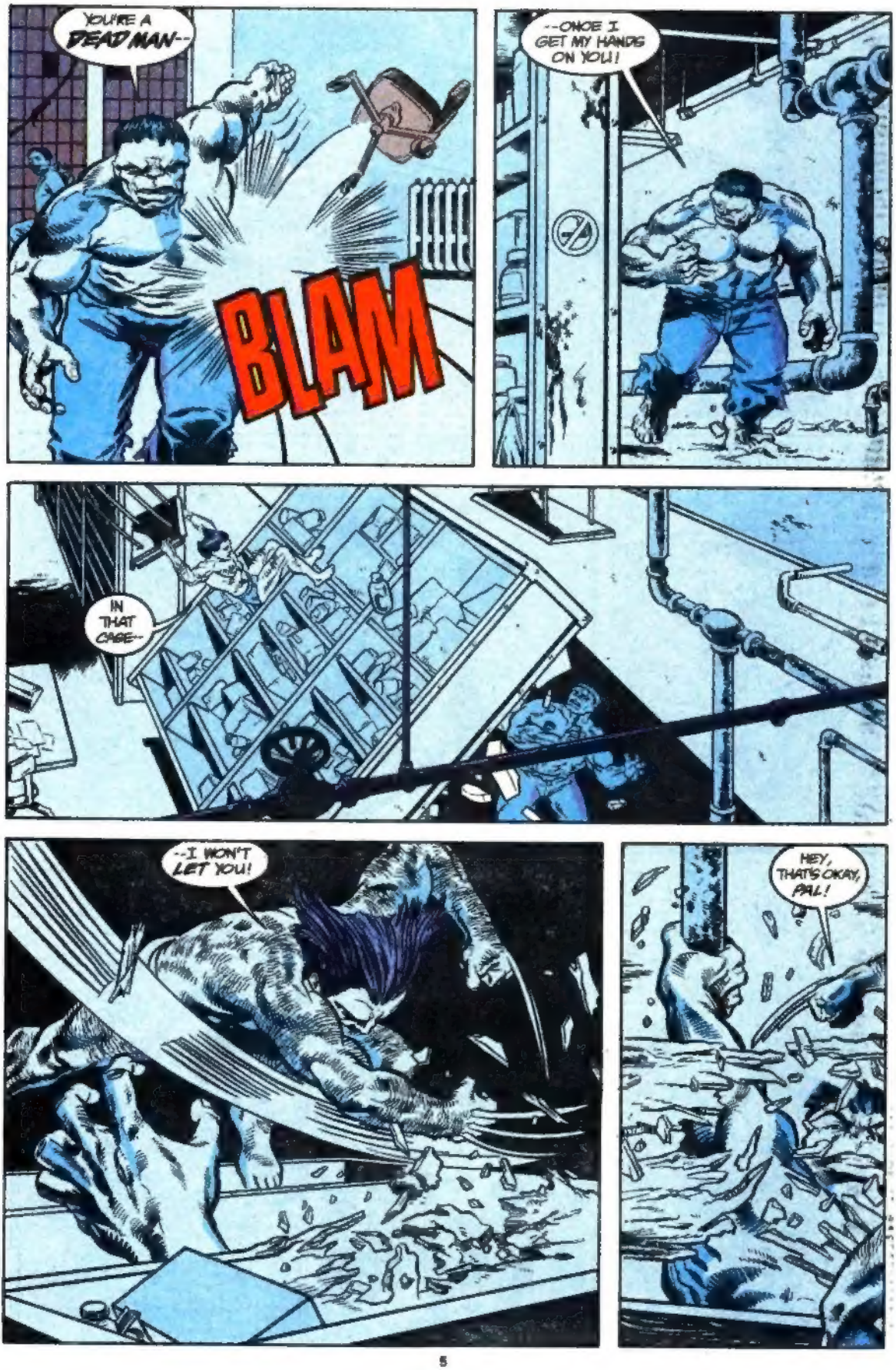
GOOD QUESTION...
FWUMP!

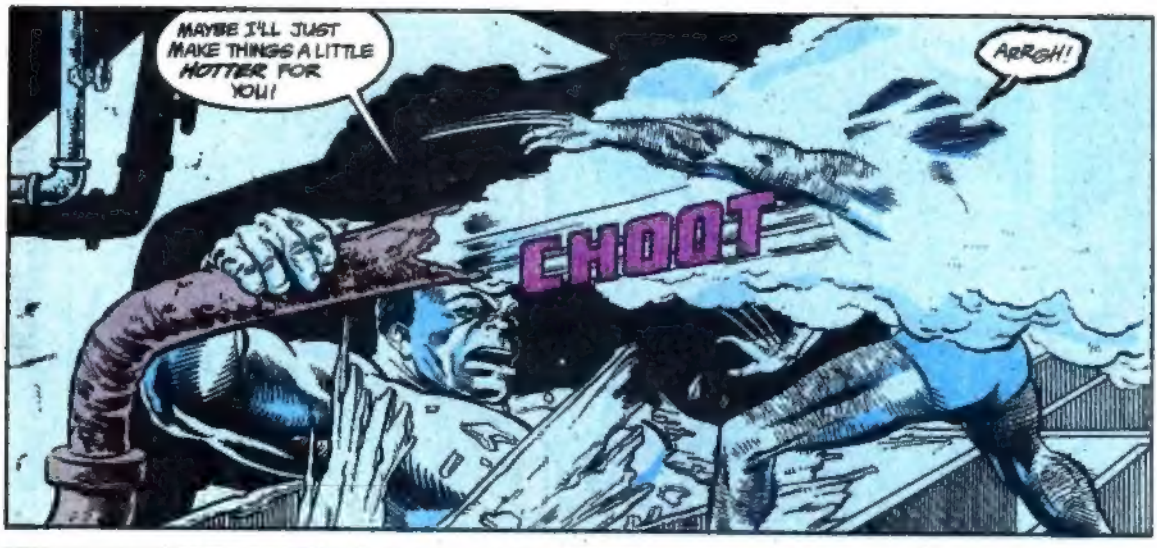
SMASH!!!

... BUT I FAIL TO SEE THE RELEVANCE!
NOW, ABOUT THOSE ANSWERS...!
WHO ARE YOU?!
OUR PATHS HAVE CROSSED BEFORE, BEHEMOTH --

-- BUT WITH THESE CLAWS, I'LL SEE TO IT THAT IT NEVER HAPPENS AGAIN!
HA HA HA! MAYBE YOU'RE REALLY A CLOWN!
AFTER ALL, I KNOW YOU'RE NOT WOLVERINE!
WHAT GOOD ARE FAKE CLAWS GOING TO BE --

--AGAINST ME?!
YOU KNOW WHAT, GUY?
YOU JUST MADE A BIG MISTAKE!
POOM
PARTY TIME IS OVER!
K-BAM
SHT
THE KID GLOVES ARE OFF!
FWIP


YOU'RE A DEAD MAN--
BLAM
--ONCE I GET MY HANDS ON YOU!
IN THAT CAGE--
--I WON'T LET YOU!
HEY, THAT'S OKAY, PAL!


MAYBE I'LL JUST MAKE THINGS A LITTLE HOTTER FOR YOU!
ARRGH!
CHOOT

AW, WHAT'S THE MATTER? DID YOU GET ALL STEAMED UP?
LOOK, I DON'T WANT TO BE FORCED TO KILL YOU!

LET'S PUT AN END TO THIS, BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE--
--FOR YOU!
KLANK
KLANK
HEY, I'LL PLAY BABE RUTH AS LONG AS YOU WANT--

--BUT WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NEXT?
WHAT--
--WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

YEAH... WHAT DO YOU DO FOR AN ENCORE?

WHAT...
...WHAT AM I DOING?
WHAT AM I DOING?!
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?!

NO PLACE TO RUN!
NO PLACE TO HIDE!
SHEESH! AND I THOUGHT I HAD PROBLEMS!

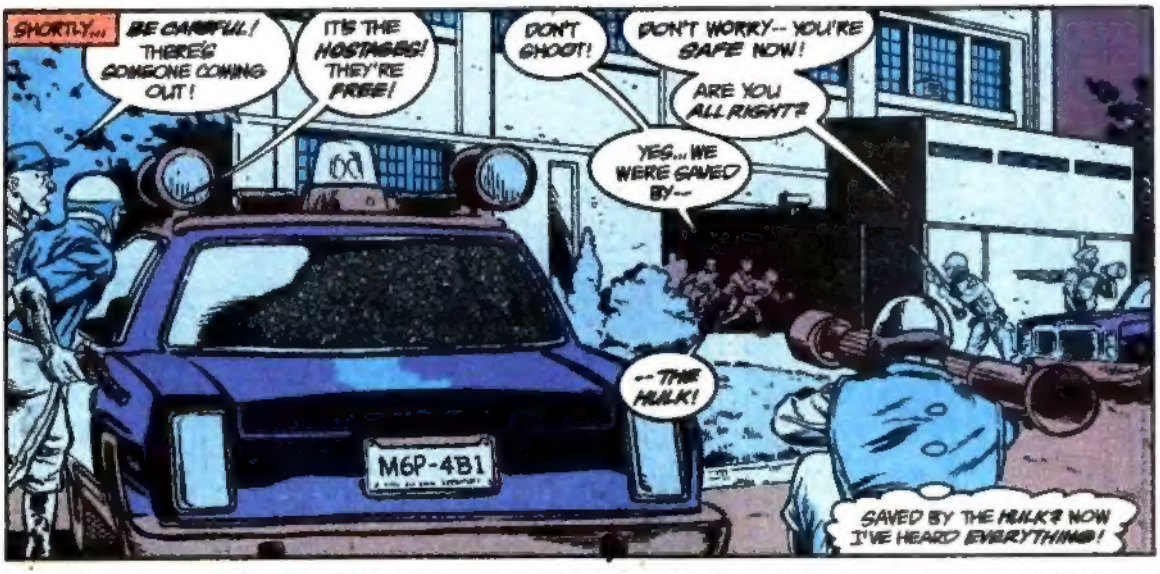
WELL, AT LEAST THE PROBLEM'S OVER FOR THOSE UNFORTUNATES!

ONLY, THEY DON'T KNOW IT! THEY'RE AS AFRAID OF ME AS THEY ARE OF HIM!
OH, WELL!

PAST LIVES-- PAST CRIMES!
NOW, I WONDER WHERE OUR LITTLE WOLVERINE COPYCAT HAS GOTTEN OFF TO?

THE PAIN--
--SUBSIDING!

THE MADNESS-- ONCE AGAIN I'M FREE OF IT--
--BUT ONLY FOR THE MOMENT...
... AND THE MOMENT NEVER LASTS!
ONCE I WAS A MAN!
WHAT AM I NOW?!

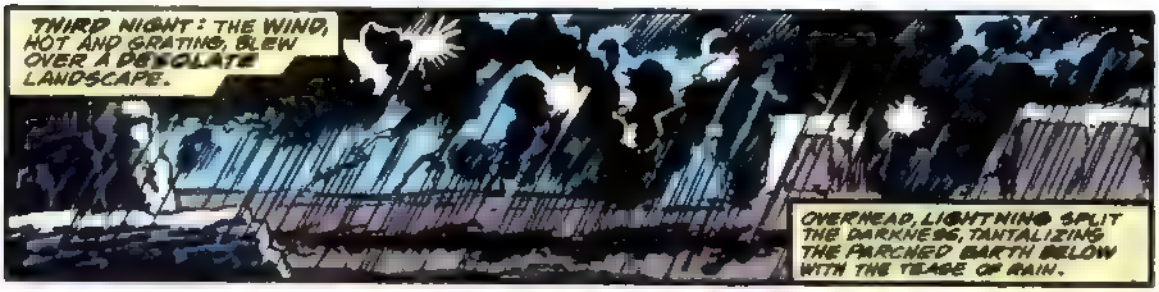


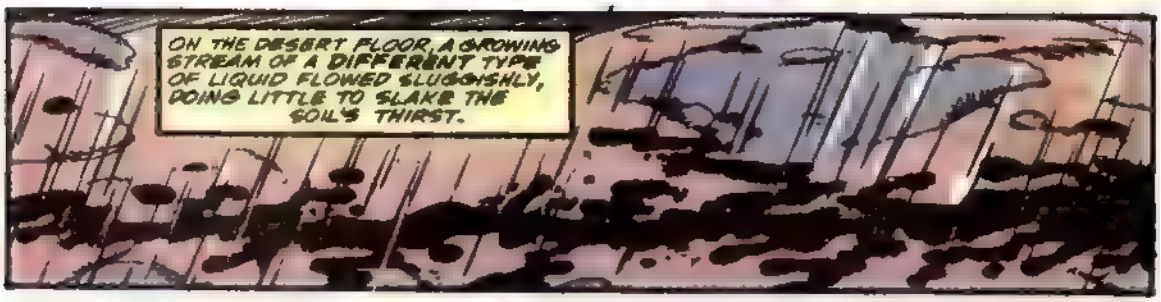
— CONTINUES NEXT ISSUE —

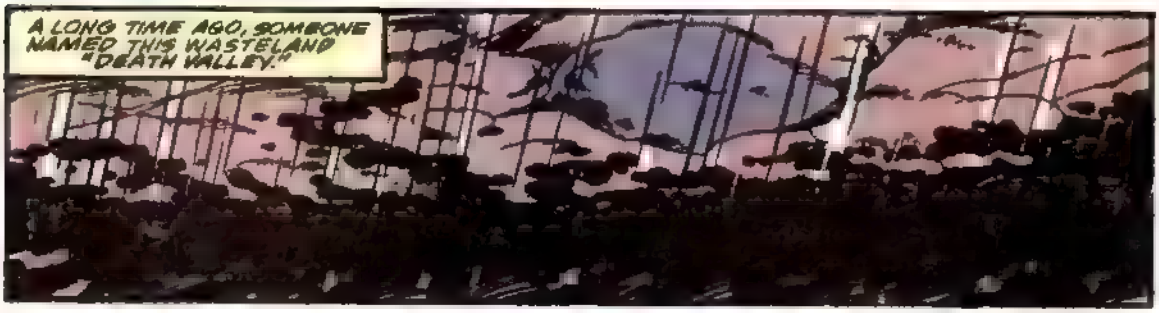
WEREWOLF BY NIGHT... CHILDREN OF THE BEAST

Communion

Chapter II





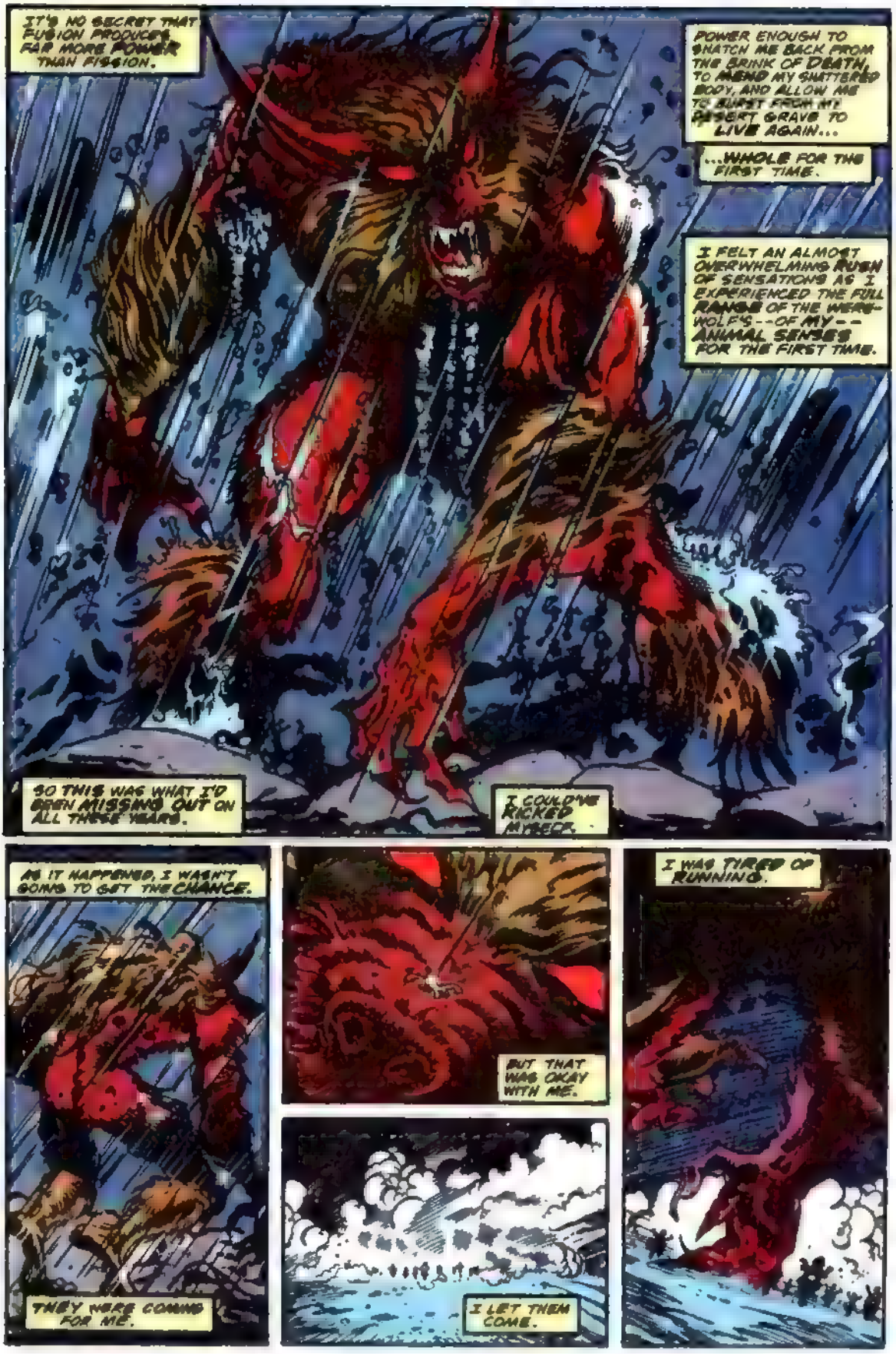


HE'D BEEN ATTACKED BY MANIACS WITH SILVER WEAPONS--
--CHASED ACROSS HALF OF CALIFORNIA--
--AND HAD THE STUFFING KICKED OUT OF HIM BY A BUNCH OF OTHER WERE-WOLVES.
WHEN IT RAINS, IT POURS.
HHHR... HHRR... HURR
THE WEREWOLF'S BODY WAS A GIANT MASS OF PAIN, LEAKING BLOODY FROM DOZENS OF WOUNDS, COURTESY OF SILVER DAGGER AND THE BRAIN-EATERS.
HE WAS ALREADY THREE-QUARTERS OF THE WAY TO BLEEDING TO DEATH.
SO WHAT DOES HE DO?
HE FOLLOWS HIS INSTINCT, THE ONE THAT TOLD HIM TO FIND THE NEAREST HOLE, CRAWL IN--
--AND GO TO SLEEP.
NEVER MIND THAT AS HE DOES THAT, HE'S CERTAIN TO DIE OUT HERE.
HE WAS A GOOD DOG. HE DID WHAT HIS INSTINCTS TOLD HIM TO.
SO MUCH FOR INSTINCTS.
THU-THUP- THU-THUP- THU-THUP

AND THEN, BURIED BENEATH THE DESERT, TRAPPED IN A GORE-SOAKED MASS OF DYING MEAT AND BONE, SOMETHING HAPPENED.
I HAD AN...EXPERIENCE... THAT I CAN'T EASILY EXPLAIN OR EVEN DESCRIBE VERY WELL.
I FOUND MYSELF FLOATING IN WARM, ENVELOPING DARKNESS, MY SPIRIT SOMEHOW FREED FROM MY RUINED BODY.
I SWAM THROUGH THE VOID, INTO A FIELD OF SHIMMERING LIGHTS THAT DANCED AND WHISPERED MY NAME.
I DOVE THROUGH THEM, DRAWN PAST SOME KIND OF DEMARCATION ZONE BETWEEN LIGHT AND SHADOW...
...INTO A SEETHING UNIVERSE OF IMAGES BURBLED UP BY THE BLACK SEA OF MY SUBCONSCIOUS--
--THE DARKEST CAVERNS OF MY MIND.

AND I WASN'T ALONE.
HURTFLESH PAIN... ...PAIN...
HAAAARRRGHH
THIS WAS WHERE I HAD KEPT HIM LOCKED UP ALL THESE YEARS.
...ALL DARK, PAIN DARK.
IT HADN'T OCCURRED TO ME BEFORE, TO THINK ABOUT HOW I KEPT HIM PRISONER DOWN HERE, IN THE INFINITE DARKNESS--
--CHAINED AND MISERABLE--
PAIN DARK AFRAID AFRAID
--EXCEPT FOR THOSE SHORT THREE DAYS EACH MONTH WHEN THE MOON SET HIM FREE.
I COULD FEEL MYSELF THINNING, DISSOLVING, AS THE FINAL DARKNESS CLOSED IN ON US.
WE WOULD BOTH DIE HERE.
I KNEW WHAT I HAD TO DO.

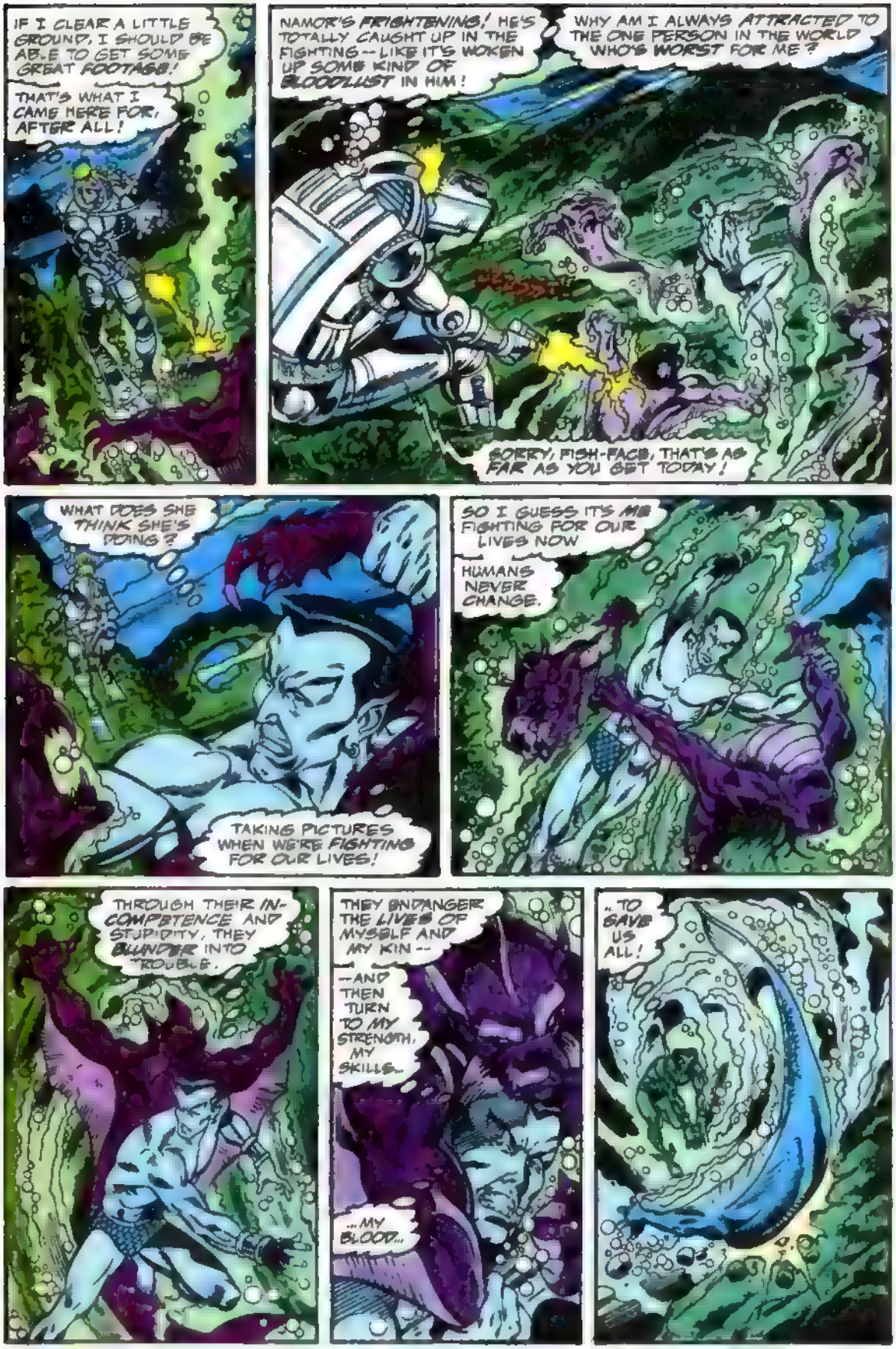
I GATHERED THE DYING EMBERS OF MY CONSCIOUSNESS AND HURLED THEM AT THE CHAINS THAT HAD IMPRISONED BOTH OF US FOR SO LONG.
NOW IT WAS UP TO HIM TO SEE THE WAY TO SURVIVAL.
WOULD HE UNDERSTAND WHAT I WAS NOW OFFERING? WOULD HE COMPREHEND WHAT IT WOULD MEAN TO BOTH OF US?
HE DID.
HIS SPIRIT DEVOURED MINE, ENGULFING IT WHILE I PENETRATED HIS FROM WITHIN.
WHERE BEFORE WE HAD BEEN LIKE THE SUNDERED HALVES OF AN ATOM SPLIT BY FISSION...
...INCOMPLETE AND DECAYING...
...WE NOW ACHIEVED---
---FUSION!

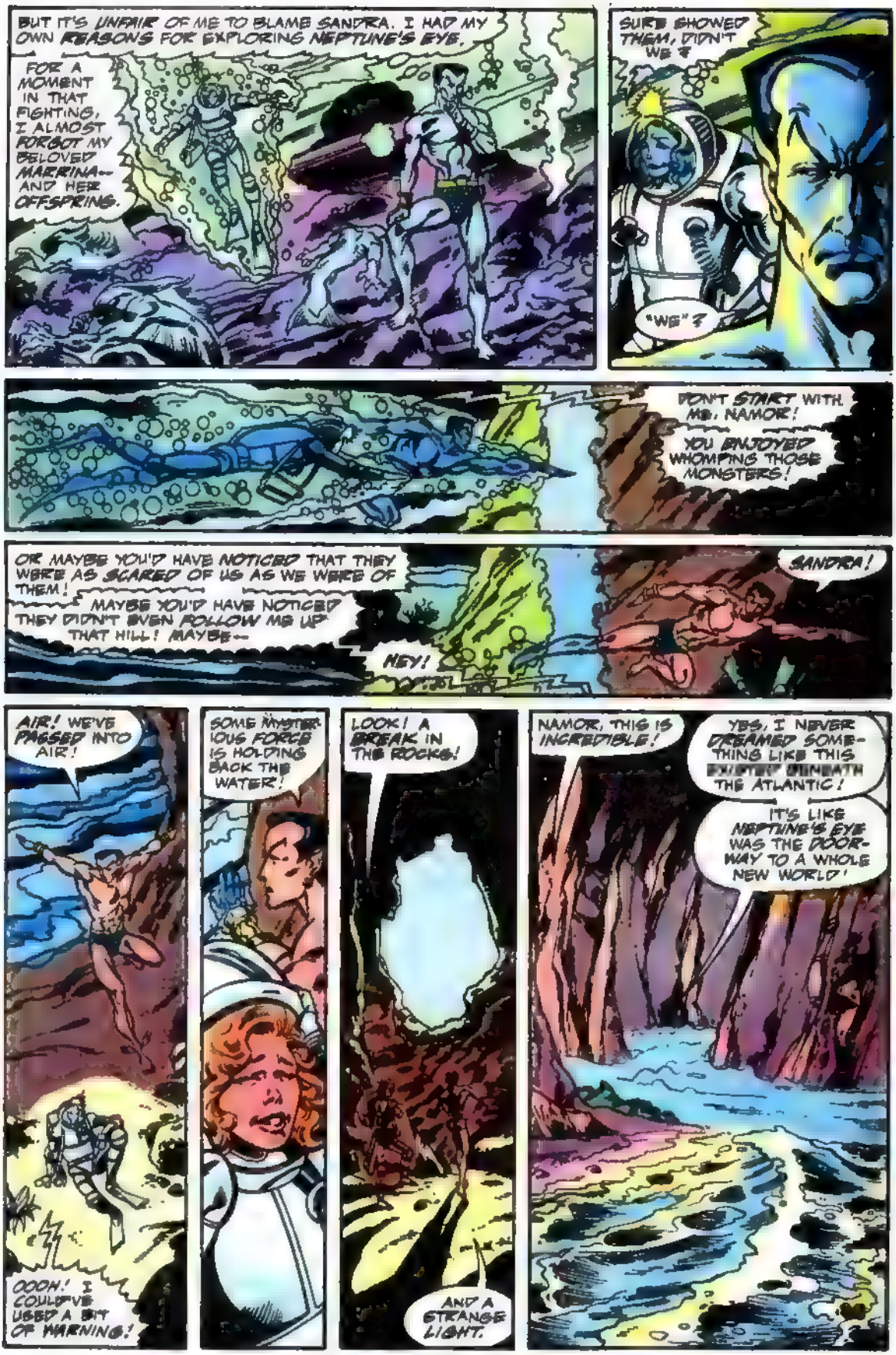

IT'S NO SECRET THAT FUSION PRODUCES FAR MORE POWER THAN FISSION.
POWER ENOUGH TO SNATCH ME BACK FROM THE BRINK OF DEATH, TO MEND MY SHATTERED BODY, AND ALLOW ME TO BURST FROM MY DESERT GRAVE TO LIVE AGAIN...
...WHOLE FOR THE FIRST TIME.
I FELT AN ALMOST OVERWHELMING RUSH OF SENSATIONS AS I EXPERIENCED THE FULL RANGE OF THE WEREWOLF'S--OF MY--ANIMAL SENSES FOR THE FIRST TIME.
SO THIS WAS WHAT I'D BEEN MISSING OUT ON ALL THESE YEARS.
I COULD'VE RICKED MYSELF.
AS IT HAPPENED, I WASN'T GOING TO GET THE CHANCE.
THEY WERE COMING FOR ME.
BUT THAT WAS OKAY WITH ME.
I LET THEM COME.
I WAS TIRED OF RUNNING.

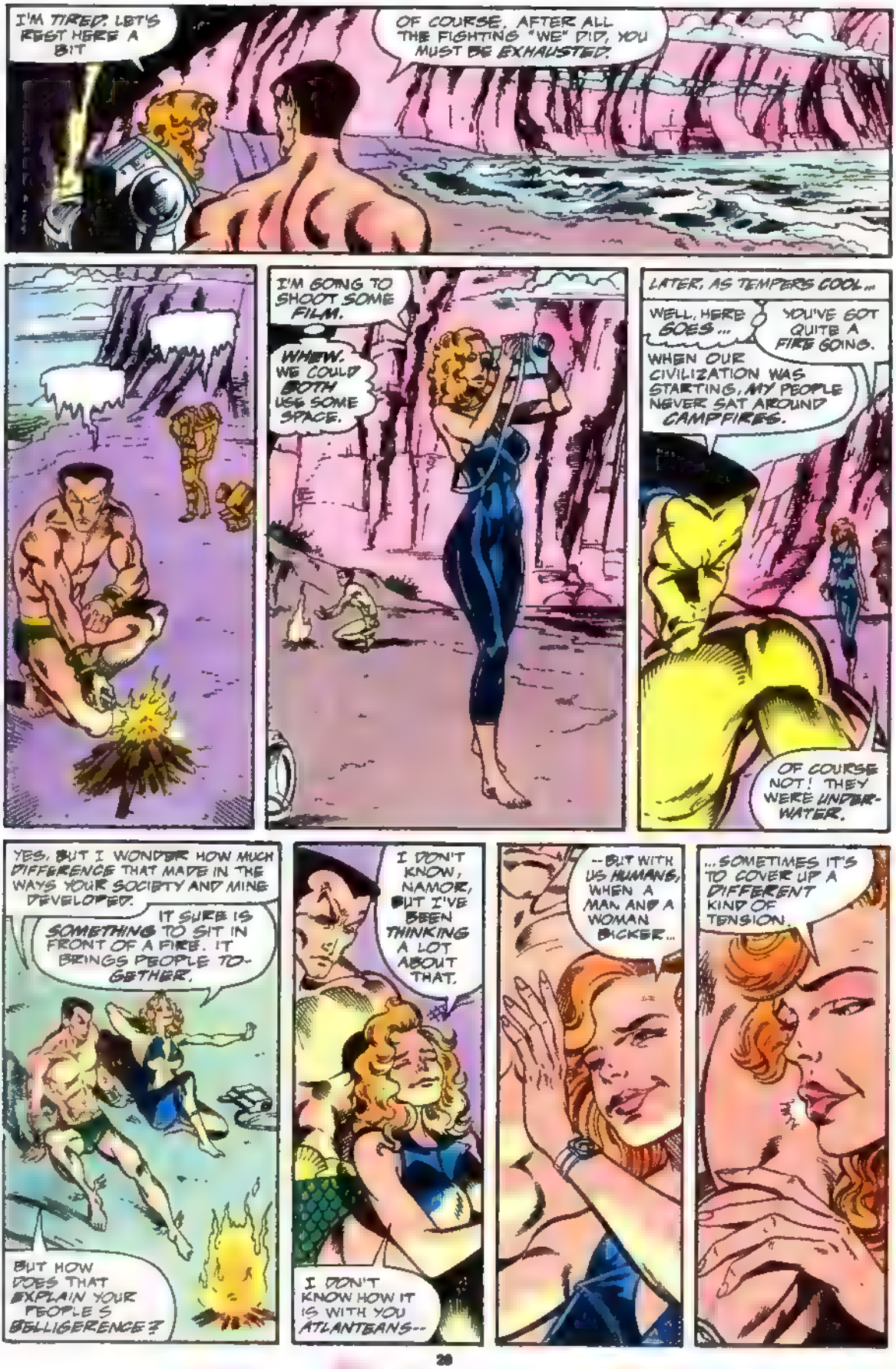
I DIDN'T HAVE LONG TO WAIT.
KA-RAAJUMMMMM
WHY?
YOU COULD HAVE BEEN ONE OF US!
YOU AND I, WE COULD HAVE BEEN--
NO! I DO NOT KILL!
IT IS THE WAY OF THE BEAST! YOU ARE EITHER PREDATOR--
--OR PREY!
NO!
THE BEAST KILLS ONLY TO SURVIVE!
YOUR WAY-- KILLING FOR PLEASURE-- IS THE WAY OF MAN!
AARHK!
SKRIDD
THIS IS THE WAY OF MAN!

MY FURY DROVE ME TOWARD HER THROAT WITH DEADLY INTENT.
YOU PERVERT THE GIFT WITH YOUR HUMAN PASSIONS! I SHOULD--
SO... YOU ARE ONE OF US, AFTER ALL...
WAS I?
BRAKAKAKAK!
SPAK SPAK SPAK
SUDDENLY, THE QUESTION BECAME MOOT, LOST IN A HAIL OF SILVER BULLETS.
AHURARRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRR
WE HAD COMPANY.
SINNERS! PREPARE TO DIE AT THE HANDS OF SILVER FAGGOT--
--AND HIS SWORD OF THE LORD!!
CONTINUES NEXT ISSUE...

SUB-MARINER
"NEPTUNE'S EYE" -- PART II
THE OLD MAN IN THE SEA
THESE CREATURES ARE RELENTLESS... THERE'S NO END TO THEM! THEY ATTACK FOR NO REASON AND WITHOUT MERCY!
IS THIS ADVENTURE ENOUGH FOR YOU, SANDRA?
NAMOR, WILL YOU SHUT UP!
WE CAN FINISH THIS ARGUMENT AFTER WE FINISH THESE MONSTERS!

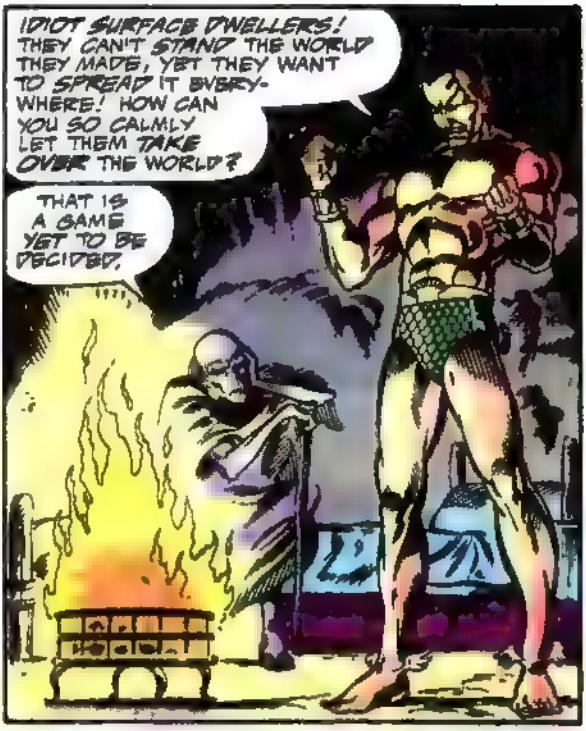

IF I CLEAR A LITTLE GROUND, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET SOME GREAT FOOTAGE!
THAT'S WHAT I CAME HERE FOR, AFTER ALL!
NAMOR'S FRIGHTENING! HE'S TOTALLY CAUGHT UP IN THE FIGHTING -- LIKE IT'S WOKEN UP SOME KIND OF BLOODLUST IN HIM!
WHY AM I ALWAYS ATTRACTED TO THE ONE PERSON IN THE WORLD WHO'S WORST FOR ME?
SORRY, FISH-FACE, THAT'S AS FAR AS YOU GET TODAY!
WHAT DOES SHE THINK SHE'S DOING?
TAKING PICTURES WHEN WE'RE FIGHTING FOR OUR LIVES!
SO I GUESS IT'S ME FIGHTING FOR OUR LIVES NOW
HUMANS NEVER CHANGE.
THROUGH THEIR INCOMPETENCE AND STUPIDITY, THEY BLUNDER INTO TROUBLE.
THEY ENDANGER THE LIVES OF MYSELF AND MY KIN --
--AND THEN TURN TO MY STRENGTH, MY SKILLS...
...MY BLOOD...
...TO SAVE US ALL!

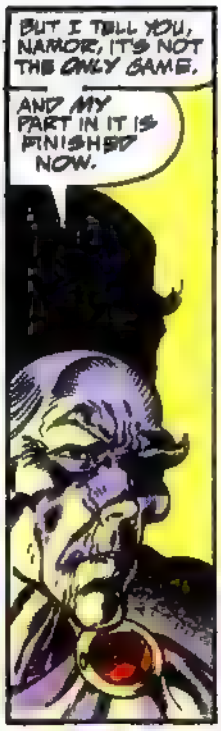

BUT IT'S UNFAIR OF ME TO BLAME SANDRA. I HAD MY OWN REASONS FOR EXPLORING NEPTUNE'S EYE.
FOR A MOMENT IN THAT FIGHTING, I ALMOST FORGOT MY BELOVED MARRINA-- AND HER OFFSPRING.
SURE SHOWED THEM, DIDN'T WE?
"WE"?
DON'T START WITH ME, NAMOR! YOU ENJOYED WHOMPING THOSE MONSTERS!
OR MAYBE YOU'D HAVE NOTICED THAT THEY WERE AS SCARED OF US AS WE WERE OF THEM! MAYBE YOU'D HAVE NOTICED THEY DIDN'T EVEN FOLLOW ME UP THAT HILL! MAYBE--
SANDRA!
HEY!
AIR! WE'VE PASSED INTO AIR!
OOOH! I COULD'VE USED A BIT OF WARNING!
SOME MYSTERIOUS FORCE IS HOLDING BACK THE WATER!
LOOK! A BREAK IN THE ROCKS!
AND A STRANGE LIGHT.
NAMOR, THIS IS INCREDIBLE!
YES, I NEVER DREAMED SOMETHING LIKE THIS EXISTED BENEATH THE ATLANTIC!
IT'S LIKE NEPTUNE'S EYE WAS THE DOORWAY TO A WHOLE NEW WORLD!


I'M TIRED. LET'S REST HERE A BIT
OF COURSE. AFTER ALL THE FIGHTING "WE" DID, YOU MUST BE EXHAUSTED.
I'M GOING TO SHOOT SOME FILM.
WHEW. WE COULD BOTH USE SOME SPACE.
LATER, AS TEMPERS COOL...
WELL, HERE GOES...
YOU'VE GOT QUITE A FIRE GOING.
WHEN OUR CIVILIZATION WAS STARTING, MY PEOPLE NEVER SAT AROUND CAMPFIRES.
OF COURSE NOT! THEY WERE UNDER-WATER.
YES, BUT I WONDER HOW MUCH DIFFERENCE THAT MADE IN THE WAYS YOUR SOCIETY AND MINE DEVELOPED.
IT SURE IS SOMETHING TO SIT IN FRONT OF A FIRE. IT BRINGS PEOPLE TO-GETHER.
BUT HOW DOES THAT EXPLAIN YOUR PEOPLE'S BELLIGERENCE?
I DON'T KNOW, NAMOR, BUT I'VE BEEN THINKING A LOT ABOUT THAT.
I DON'T KNOW HOW IT IS WITH YOU ATLANTEANS--
--BUT WITH US HUMANS, WHEN A MAN AND A WOMAN BICKER...
...SOMETIMES IT'S TO COVER UP A DIFFERENT KIND OF TENSION.

JUST WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
NAMOR!
YOU TRY MY PATIENCE, GIRL!
I AM A PRINCE OF THE ROYAL HOUSE!
MY AFFECTION IS NOT SO EASILY WON!
PIG!
WHAT HAVE I GOTTEN MYSELF INTO? MAYBE I SHOULD TAKE HER BACK BEFORE EXPLORING FURTHER.
OH, NAMOR, DON'T BE SO UPTIGHT!
WHAT?
OR MAYBE IT'S JUST THAT WHEN YOU'RE AS OLD AS I AM YOU LEARN TO APPRECIATE WHAT PLEASURES LIFE OFFERS YOU
COME, NAMOR, SIT WITH ME A WHILE. I COULD USE THE COMPANY
MEANWHILE, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE EYE..
HANK, SOMETHING WEIRD'S GOING ON.
I DON'T BELIEVE FOR A SECOND THAT A SHARK DID THIS DAMAGE TO THE LIGHTING TOWER.
AND McCAY TOLD ME THERE WAS SOME AVENGER RUNNING AROUND THE BASE
SSSSS
AND NOW SANDRA'S MISSING, TOO
SSS
I TELL YOU, HANK...
HANK?
SSSS

NOT A SHARK. NOPE.
SKRAK!
GOTTA GET TO THE SCOOTER.
GOTTA WARN THE BASE
WHO AM I? I'M NOT SURE HOW TO ANSWER THAT, NAMOR.
I'VE BEEN AND DONE MANY THINGS. BUT MOSTLY THESE DAYS I LIKE TO KEEP TO MYSELF. I SIT AND I WATCH.
THIS CAVE HAS BEEN MY HOME FOR MANY YEARS NOW
ARE YOU A GOD?
OH, THAT'S RIGHT. YOU ATLANTEANS STILL BELIEVE IN GODS. NO, I DON'T LIKE THAT WORD.
LET'S JUST SAY I'VE BEEN HERE LONG ENOUGH THAT I'VE GOTTEN USED TO THE SEA -- AND THE SEA HAS GOTTEN USED TO ME.
YOU SEE, EVER SINCE THE SEA FOUND OUT I AM DYING IT'S BEEN IN GREAT TURMOIL.
THE WHIRLPOOL.
YES. BUT NOW THE OTHER CREATURES LIVING THERE ARE LASHING OUT AGAINST THE ONES THEY HOLD RESPONSIBLE FOR MY IMMINENT DEATH.
THE COMING OF THE SURFACE MEN IS CAUSING YOU TO DIE?
MAYBE OR MAYBE MY DYING IS BRINGING THEM DOWN. WHO KNOWS?

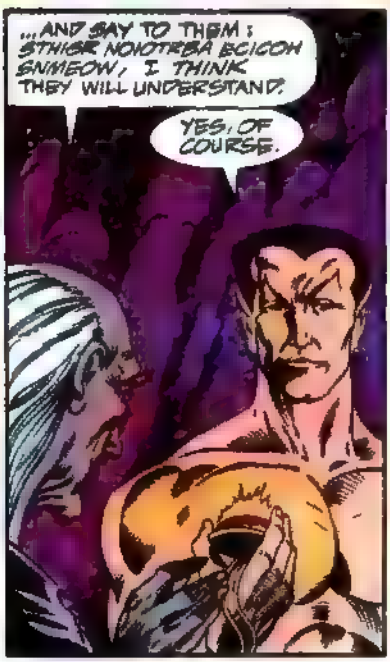

IDIOT SURFACE DWELLERS! THEY CAN'T STAND THE WORLD THEY MADE, YET THEY WANT TO SPREAD IT EVERYWHERE! HOW CAN YOU SO CALMLY LET THEM TAKE OVER THE WORLD?
THAT IS A GAME YET TO BE DECIDED.


BUT I TELL YOU, NAMOR, IT'S NOT THE ONLY GAME.
AND MY PART IN IT IS FINISHED NOW.

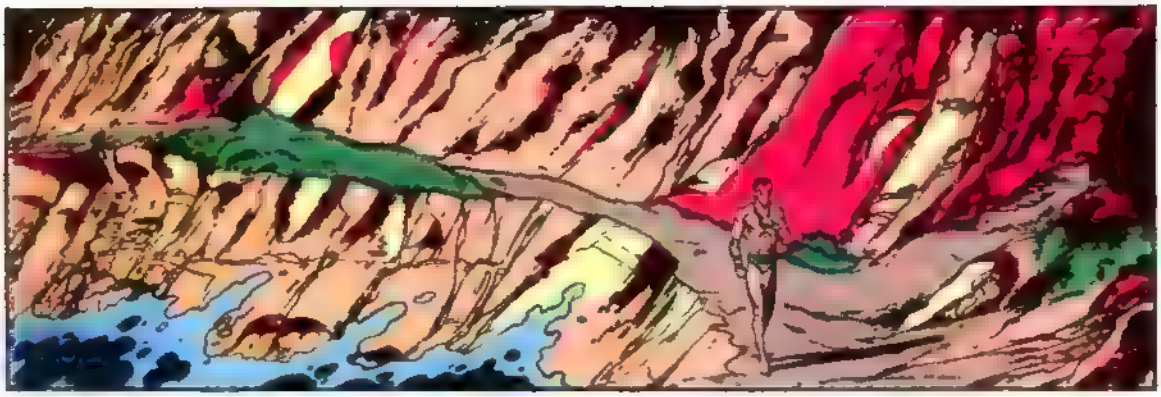
STILL, THERE IS ONE THING YOU CAN DO FOR ME, IF YOU'D BE SO KIND.
THE HUMANS FROM THE SURFACE ARE IN GRAVE DANGER.

MY FRIENDS ARE STUBBORN AND RECKLESS. THEY MOST LIKELY WON'T STOP UNTIL ALL THE HUMANS ARE DEAD.
I DON'T WANT THAT SLAUGHTER ON MY SOUL JUST NOW.

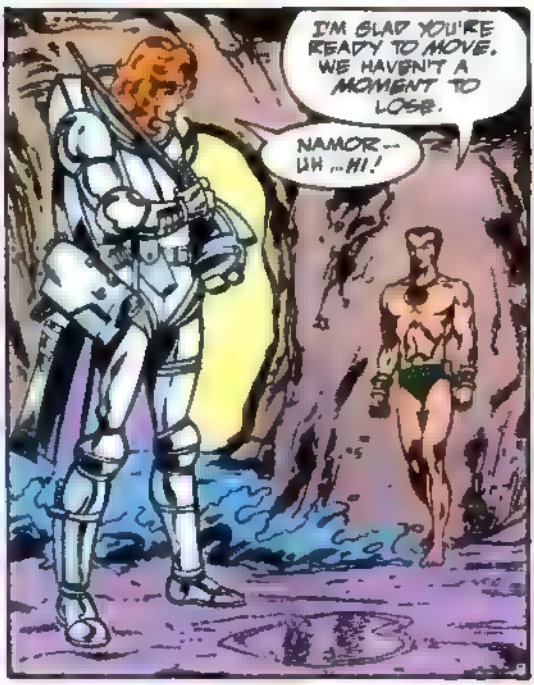
IF YOU COULD SHOW THEM THIS AMULET AS A SIGN FROM ME...


...AND SAY TO THEM: STHIGR NOVOTREBA BCICOH SNMEOW, I THINK THEY WILL UNDERSTAND.
YES, OF COURSE.

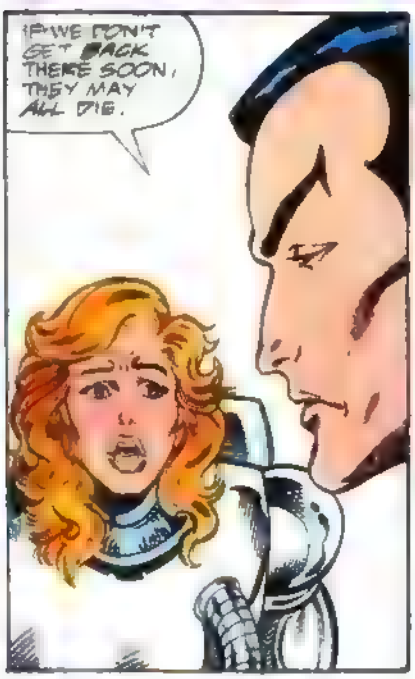
NAMOR, I KNOW YOU ARE FEELING ACUTELY NOW THE PAIN OF LIFE AND WONDERING IF IT'S WORTH IT, BUT REMEMBER, AS THE RIGHTFUL HEIR TO THE THRONE OF ATLANTIS, YOU HAVE A ROLE TO PLAY IN ALL OF THIS, AN IMPORTANT ROLE.

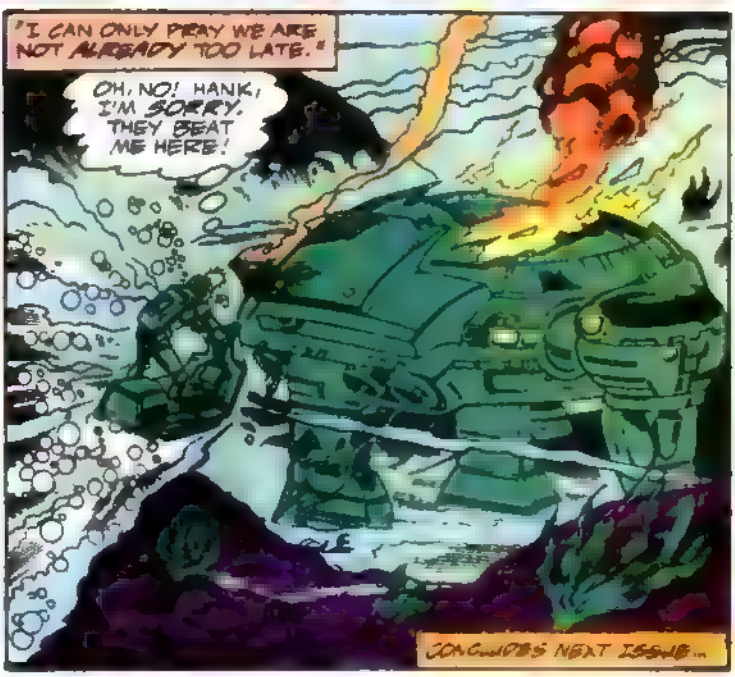


NAMOR GAINED


I'M GLAD YOU'RE READY TO MOVE. WE HAVEN'T A MOMENT TO LOSE.
NAMOR-- UH ... HI!

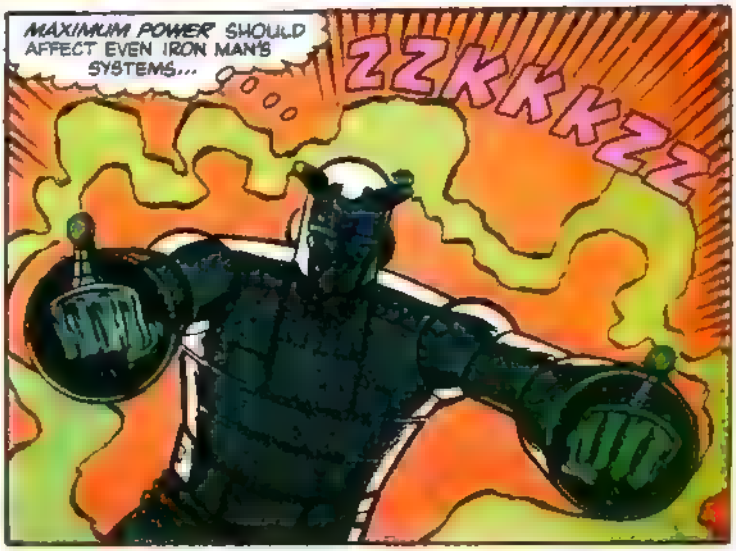
YEAH? WHAT'S UP, CAPTAIN?
THE THREAT TO YOUR COMPANIONS IS GREATER THAN WE REALIZED.


IF WE DON'T GET BACK THERE SOON, THEY MAY ALL DIE.


"I CAN ONLY PRAY WE ARE NOT ALREADY TOO LATE."
OH, NO! HANK, I'M SORRY. THEY BEAT ME HERE!
CONCLUDES NEXT ISSUE...

A RESEARCH LAB AT STARK INDUSTRIES...
THIS MAY BE A TOTAL WASTE OF TIME.
JUST BECAUSE ONE SOON-TO-BE EX-GUARD FELL ASLEEP ON THE JOB DOESN'T MEAN ANYONE WOULD BE FOOLISH ENOUGH TO TRY AND STEAL THE--
NEUTRALIZING THE SECURITY MAN WAS EASIER THAN I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE--
COMING THROUGH THE SKYLIGHT--- WHOA!
WHOA ---IRON MAN!
IRON MAN
in
NEUTRALIZING EFFECTS

NO CHOICE--I CAN'T BACK OUT NOW, HAVE TO TAKE HIM ON... AND BEAT HIM!


MAXIMUM POWER SHOULD AFFECT EVEN IRON MAN'S SYSTEMS...
ZZKKKZZ

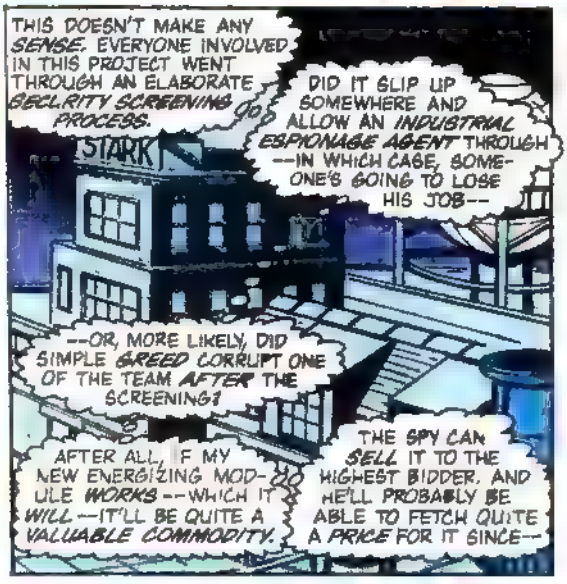
YIKES--I FELT THAT THROUGHOUT MY WHOLE ARMOR!
HE'LL NEVER FIGURE OUT A WAY TO DEFEND HIMSELF AGAINST MY POWER...
...UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE!
ZZKK
JOINTS STIFFENED UP...
KZZKK
WHA--HE'S GOT SOME SORT OF GRAPPLER BEAM AS WELL..
ZZKKZZ
THIS SHOULD PUT YOU OUT OF ACTION!
CAN'T REACT IN TIME!
WHUD
GOT TO NEUTRALIZE THE ELECTRONIC LOCKS ON THIS SAFE FAST...
THE ARMORED AVENGER'S COMING TO ALREADY!
UGGHH!...
ALL RIGHT! STARK'S NEW ENERGIZING MODULE --WE'RE GONNA BE RICH...
HA HA HA
T-TOO ...LATE ...TO... S-STOP HIM...

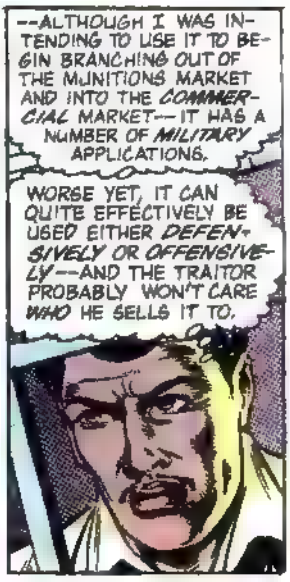
ACTUALLY... IT'S BEST HE DIDN'T STICK AROUND...
...DRAINED SO MUCH OF MY ENERGY .. POWER RESERVES NOT ENOUGH...
...HAVE TO WORK ON THAT... IF MY HEART SURVIVES THIS...
BUT NOW ...I-HAVE TO... RE-CHARGE...
...BEFORE...
UGH!
P-PACEMAKER ...GIVING... OUT...
AAAHHHHH...
MADE IT... JUST IN TIME...
NOW WHO WAS THAT CROOK? HOW DID HE KNOW ABOUT A PROJECT THAT MY RESEARCH TEAM WAS SUPPOSED TO BE SECRETLY DEVELOPING?
FACE IT, TONY—YOU COULD HAVE A TRAITOR IN YOUR LITTLE GROUP!
THE NEXT MORNING...
...IF THE MODULE'S BEEN STOLEN, THEN WHY HAVEN'T YOU CALLED THE POLICE YET, MR. STARK?
THE POLICE WOULD BRING TOO MUCH BAD PUBLICITY DOWN ON THIS PROJECT, BURSTYN.
AND IRON MAN BELIEVES HE CAN RECOVER THE COMPONENT ALONE...
OUR BOSS IS ALWAYS ON THE SPOT, PEPPER.
YES, HAPPY, BUT HE LOOKS TIRED ...OVERWORKED.
...SO LET'S GIVE IRON MAN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS.
AND IF HE DOESN'T SUCCEED, ALL OUR WORK IS WASTED--
MORE LIKELY HIS PLAYBOY LIFESTYLE IS CATCHING UP WITH HIM.
NOT TO MENTION THE MONEY SOME OF US HAVE INVESTED!

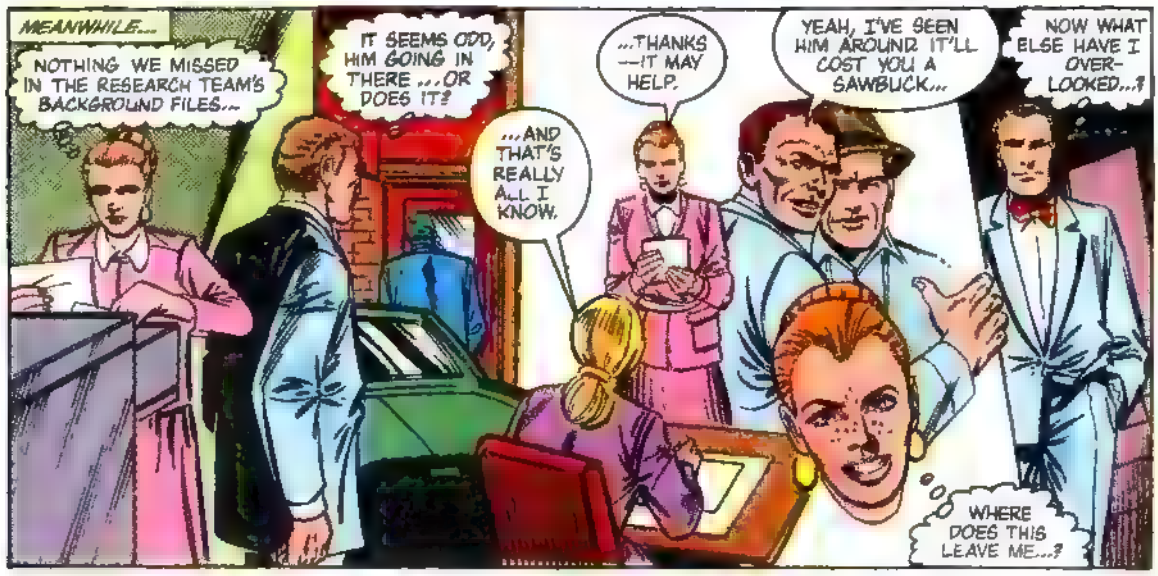
THIS IS A MISTAKE, STARK.
SORRY YOU FEEL THAT WAY, CRONIN.
YOU'RE THE MAJOR FINANCIER-- IT'S YOUR CALL.
DON'T WORRY, FAWLKES. I'LL CONTACT ALL OF YOU AS SOON AS I HEAR FROM IRON MAN.

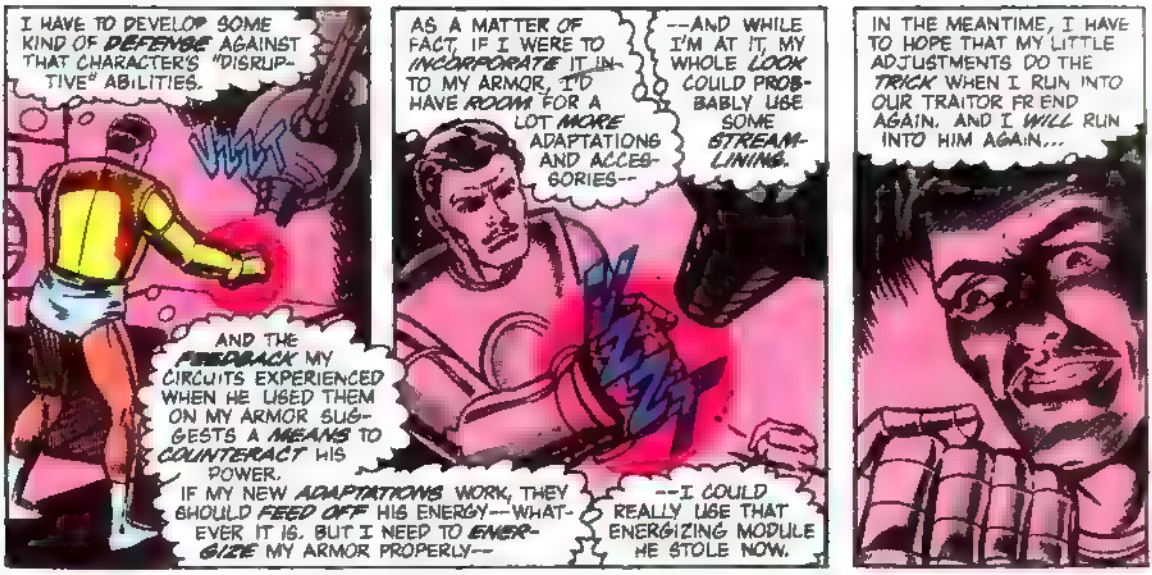
AND YOU TWO CAN HELP IRON MAN. RECHECK THE BACKGROUNDS ON OUR ENTIRE TEAM-- FIND OUT EVERYTHING ABOUT THEIR LIVES.
WE'LL FIND A LEAD--IF THERE IS ONE
I'M ALL FOR HELPING OL' SHELL-HEAD.

PEPPER, HAPPY--
WE KNOW --WE'LL BE CAREFUL.
THAT HOOD BETTER BE CAREFUL WHEN I GET MY HANDS ON HIM.
REPORT IN WITH ANYTHING PROMISING--THEN WE'LL LET IRON MAN HANDLE IT FROM THERE.


THIS DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE. EVERYONE INVOLVED IN THIS PROJECT WENT THROUGH AN ELABORATE SECURITY SCREENING PROCESS.
DID IT SLIP UP SOMEWHERE AND ALLOW AN INDUSTRIAL ESPIONAGE AGENT THROUGH --IN WHICH CASE, SOMEONE'S GOING TO LOSE HIS JOB--
STARK
--OR, MORE LIKELY, DID SIMPLE GREED CORRUPT ONE OF THE TEAM AFTER THE SCREENING?
AFTER ALL, IF MY NEW ENERGIZING MODULE WORKS--WHICH IT WILL--IT'LL BE QUITE A VALUABLE COMMODITY.
THE SPY CAN SELL IT TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER. AND HE'LL PROBABLY BE ABLE TO FETCH QUITE A PRICE FOR IT SINCE--


--ALTHOUGH I WAS INTENDING TO USE IT TO BEGIN BRANCHING OUT OF THE MUNITIONS MARKET AND INTO THE COMMERCIAL MARKET-- IT HAS A NUMBER OF MILITARY APPLICATIONS.
WORSE YET, IT CAN QUITE EFFECTIVELY BE USED EITHER DEFENSIVELY OR OFFENSIVELY--AND THE TRAITOR PROBABLY WON'T CARE WHO HE SELLS IT TO.


MEANWHILE...
NOTHING WE MISSED IN THE RESEARCH TEAM'S BACKGROUND FILES...
IT SEEMS ODD, HIM GOING IN THERE...OR DOES IT?
...AND THAT'S REALLY ALL I KNOW.
...THANKS --IT MAY HELP.
YEAH, I'VE SEEN HIM AROUND. IT'LL COST YOU A SAWBUCK...
NOW WHAT ELSE HAVE I OVERLOOKED...?
WHERE DOES THIS LEAVE ME...?

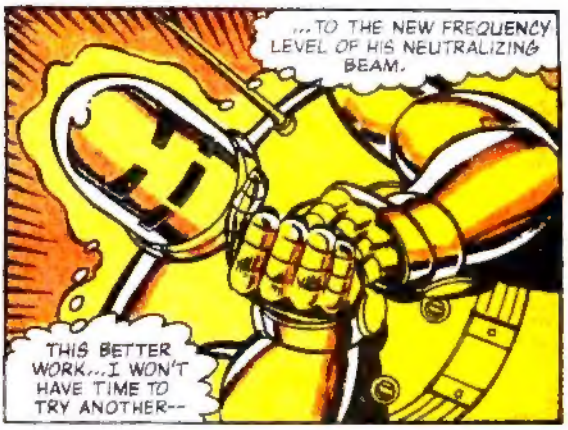

I HAVE TO DEVELOP SOME KIND OF DEFENSE AGAINST THAT CHARACTER'S "DISRUPTIVE" ABILITIES.
VLST
AND THE FEEDBACK MY CIRCUITS EXPERIENCED WHEN HE USED THEM ON MY ARMOR SUGGESTS A MEANS TO COUNTERACT HIS POWER.
IF MY NEW ADAPTATIONS WORK, THEY SHOULD FEED OFF HIS ENERGY--WHATEVER IT IS. BUT I NEED TO ENERGIZE MY ARMOR PROPERLY--
AS A MATTER OF FACT, IF I WERE TO INCORPORATE IT INTO MY ARMOR, I'D HAVE ROOM FOR A LOT MORE ADAPTATIONS AND ACCESSORIES--
--AND WHILE I'M AT IT, MY WHOLE LOOK COULD PROBABLY USE SOME STREAMLINING.
ZZZT
--I COULD REALLY USE THAT ENERGIZING MODULE HE STOLE NOW.
IN THE MEANTIME, I HAVE TO HOPE THAT MY LITTLE ADJUSTMENTS DO THE TRICK WHEN I RUN INTO OUR TRAITOR FRIEND AGAIN. AND I WILL RUN INTO HIM AGAIN...

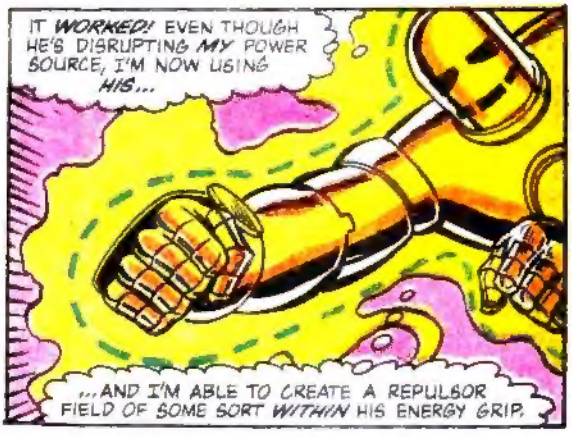
ELSEWHERE...
ARE YOU SURE? CHECK AGAIN...
I ALREADY CHECKED THREE TIMES--I'M POSITIVE!
SEE FOR YOURSELF--NEGATIVE READINGS.
SOMEONE--PROBABLY STARK HIMSELF--REMOVED A VITAL COMPONENT.
HUMP
THEN IT'S OF NO USE TO ME...
...AND NEITHER ARE YOU, FAWLKES--
WHA--
WAIT!
--EXCEPT AS A FALL GUY.
KRAK

I STILL HAVE TIME TO GET THAT PIECE FROM STARK BEFORE THE AUCTION I SET UP.
THE POLICE HAVEN'T EVEN BEEN CALLED IN YET AND I CAN HANDLE IRON MAN.
BACK AT STARK INDUSTRIES...
I BATTED A BIG FAT ZERO WITH THE GUYS I CHECKED OUT, BOSS.
SO, EITHER THE TRAITOR'S NOT ONE OF THEM OR HE'S MORE CLEVER THAN WE'D HOPED.
STILL NO WORD FROM PEPPER?
NOT YET AND BELIEVE ME, HAPPY...
...I'M AS WORRIED AS YOU ARE.

ABOUT WHO, MR. STARK?
ER,.. UM... JUST THIS THIEF WE'RE AFTER, PEPPER.
YEAH, RIGHT...
WELL, I MAY MAKE SOMETHING ON THAT RIGHT HERE.
LOOK... IT'S ONLY ONE CHECK, BUT IT'S FOR THE RENTAL OF AN OLD WAREHOUSE THAT'S FALLING APART--I CHECKED IT OUT.
TIME TO CALL THE COPS, BOSS?
WHY WOULD A MEMBER OF YOUR RESEARCH TEAM NEED TO LEASE--
STARK INDUSTRIES HAS PLENTY OF STORAGE FACILITIES OF OUR OWN --IT MUST BE A SAFE HIDEOUT OF SOME SORT FOR FAWLKES.
NO, NOT QUITE YET.
THE TRAITOR'S POWER IS DANGEROUS-- EVEN DEADLY. I'LL PASS THIS ON TO IRON MAN--THAT'S WHAT BODYGUARDS ARE FOR.
BESIDES, I HAVE SOME NEW PLANS FOR THIS MODULE NOW WHICH PRECLUDE PUBLICITY --BAD OR GOOD.
SOON, AT THE WAREHOUSE...
IT'S ALL SET. I JUST HAVE TO GET THE LAST COMPONENT FROM STARK --I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO KILL HIM TO GET IT--
--THEN I COME BACK HERE AND PUT THIS RIDICULOUS COSTUME BACK ON FAWLKES.
AS LONG AS I PULL IT OFF BEFORE STARK'S FLUNKIES FIND THE TRAIL I LEFT THEM, FAWLKES TAKES ALL THE BLAME...
... AND I'M OFF IN THE GLORIOUS PURSUIT OF MONEY!
KERASH!
WHA--?!
SORRY ABOUT THE ROOF-- I THOUGHT YOU HAD A SKYLIGHT, TOO.
HEY-- IT IS MY TURN TO DROP IN ON YOU, ISN'T IT?
YOU FOUND ME TOO SOON...
... BUT YOU WERE STILL A FOOL TO COME HERE, IRON MAN! THE POWER LEVELS OF THIS NEUTRALIZER SUIT HAVE BEEN UPPED CONSIDERABLY...
...AS YOU'RE PROBABLY NOTICING!
ZKRZZKK!
KRZZKK!
UH OH-- THIS MAY BE A PROBLEM...

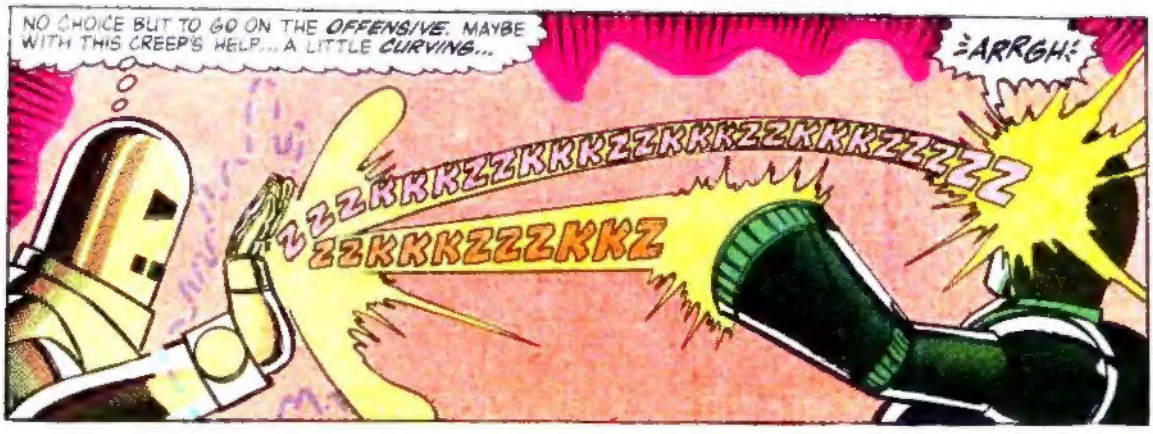
...A VERY BIG PROBLEM!
ZZKKKKZZZZKKK
ZZZKKKZZZK
THIS TIME YOU'LL DEFINITELY DIE!
GOT TO ATTEMPT TO GET TO MY ADAPTORS AT LEAST--TRY AND READJUST THEM...


...TO THE NEW FREQUENCY LEVEL OF HIS NEUTRALIZING BEAM.
THIS BETTER WORK...I WON'T HAVE TIME TO TRY ANOTHER--


IT WORKED! EVEN THOUGH HE'S DISRUPTING MY POWER SOURCE, I'M NOW USING HIS...
...AND I'M ABLE TO CREATE A REPULSOR FIELD OF SOME SORT WITHIN HIS ENERGY GRIP.

HAVE TO REMEMBER HOW I DID THIS LATER. COULD FIT IN WELL WITH MY PLANS.
I'VE EFFECTIVELY "NEUTRALIZED" YOUR HOLD, PAL.
ZZKK
ZZKK
ZZKK
CLEVER...BUT IT WON'T SAVE YOU!

AS LONG AS NEUTRALIZER KEEPS VARYING THE STRENGTH LEVEL OF HIS BLAST, I CAN'T STAY LOCKED ON HIS FREQUENCY...
...SO THIS MAKE-SHIFT SHIELD OF MINE DOESN'T HAVE A STEADY POWER SOURCE. I'M STILL ON THE DEFENSIVE.
I'LL BREAK THROUGH EVENTUALLY AND YOU KNOW IT! YOUR PATHETIC "FORCE-FIELD" IS ALREADY FLICKERING OUT!
ZZZKKZZZ


NO CHOICE BUT TO GO ON THE OFFENSIVE. MAYBE WITH THIS CREEP'S HELP... A LITTLE CURVING...
ZZZKKKZZZKKKZZZKKKZZZKKKZZZZZZ
ZZKKKZZZKKZ
ARRGH!

NICE TRY, TIN MAN, BUT YOU JUST BLINDED ME MOMENTARILY. ONCE I GIVE YOU MY FULL--

NOW I'M CLOSE ENOUGH TO--
SMSH
MY TRANSMITTING CIRCUITS--!

NOW WE'LL SETTLE THIS MAN TO MAN...
...BURSTYN!
TOOM

HOLD ON, HOLD ON-- I DON'T NEED ANY MORE OF THAT. I GIVE UP-- I'LL CONFESS EVERYTHING!
SO, LATER ON...
BURSTYN AND FAWLKES THOUGHT THEY HAD A GREAT PLAN.
AS UPWARDLY MOBILE YOUNG EXECUTIVES, THEY STOLE IDEAS FROM EVERY COMPANY THEY EACH WORKED FOR AND BUILT THE POWER SUIT TOGETHER.
BUT IT WAS JUST A MEANS TO AN END-- MONEY. AND BURSTYN BETRAYED EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE TO GET IT.
STARK
AND THE PROJECT, BOSS...?
IS CANCELED. BUY OUT THE OTHER INVESTORS. THE ENERGIZING MODULE HAS PROVEN HOW DANGEROUS IT CAN BE--I HAVE DIFFERENT PLANS FOR THIS ENERGY "CHIP" NOW...
THERE ARE GOING TO BE SOME MAJOR CHANGES AROUND HERE...
THE END

MARVEL READERS PRESENT

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016

Attention correspondents: All letters to be considered for publication must include your name and address though we will withhold that info by request!

TERRY KAVANAGH
Editor

KELLY CORVESE
Assistant Editor

Dear Marvel,

This is the first letter I've written to a comic and it is regarding MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #47. I have not been collecting comics for a long time, but I'm now sure that your book is one of the best, if not the best, on the market. I've enjoyed just about every issue, but issue #47 was the best in my opinion. It was great!

I loved the conclusion to the Wolverine story. Wolverine is one of my favorite characters and this story was an excellent vehicle for him. What ever happened to Mai? Will we see her again? I hope so, she seems like a promising character.

The Devil-Slayer story looks like it will be a good one too. I've never been a Devil-Slayer fan (in fact, to be quite honest, I'd never heard of him at all until a few issues back when you presented him in a one-part story), but now I'm considering him as a viable character. I'll have to wait a few more issues to fully formulate my opinion.

The Arabian Knight story was good too, but again, I'd never heard of him until this issue. I'd like to see more of him in the future (although I don't know why I've never heard of him before). You should have him appear more in this title, and in other Marvel titles as well.

The only problem I found in this issue (you didn't think this letter was *all* complimentary, did you?) was the Captain America story. Since I began reading comics I've always been fascinated by the idea of receiving a No-Prize and it seems that I've found my chance. On page 19, second panel, in the background you see a blind man saying "What's happened to the lights?". I understand him being able to notice the commotion around him, but there was definitely too much noise around him to hear the lights exploding.

I understand that to receive a No-Prize one has to explain the mistake, and here it is: As we all know, blind people frequently have a greater development of other senses to compensate for the one lost sense. Well, this guy has gone beyond that. He has incredible powers that heighten all of his senses. Who is he, you ask? Well his name is Red Murdock, Daredevil's long-lost relative whom no one knew about until now. Well, there you have it. I know that no comic collection is complete without a No-Prize, so what do you say? I think I deserve it.

Flavio Jiminez
1434 White Pine Drive
Wellington, FL 33414

We must admit that your explanation was quite creative, Flavio, but we're sorry to say that we'll have to turn down your No-Prize request. The last thing we need is another guy with heightened senses running around. We have enough trouble with the ones we have. Thanks for writing, though, and you're welcome to try to complete your comic collection with a No-Prize sometime in the future.

Dear Presenters,

The Wolverine/Spider-Man story was a nice start. I know Wolverine is the money name, but Spidey should have gotten equal billing on the cover and inside (Heck! Doctor Doom got equal coverage to Storm!). The story was more Spider-Man oriented, with a Spider-Man artist to-boot (who incidentally did a very nice cover). Other than that etiquette mistake, the story was great. I loved how Spidey went over all of the weird things that have happened to him in his life, again and again. A little self-effacing humor which really showed the absurdity of our artistic disbelief.

The third part of the Devil-Slayer storyline continued what has been a fine story.

The Wasp story was even better. Eric Shanower's art is always a treat. Honestly, I've never really liked the Wasp, but I liked how you played upon the hypocrisy of her attitude. She wants the fame, but not too much. Eric's art actually has me believing she might regret her present state, and change her values in some way (page 24).

The final story had two of my favorite characters in it. Doctor Doom is my all-time favorite villain, and one of my favorite characters, period. Storm has always been one I like too. It does seem like every villain in the Marvel Universe has the hots for Storm, but I can see why. In addition to her exotic beauty, she does have a regal air about her. It was also nice to see a hero and villain agree on something and work together. Usually it is a contrived matter of convenience. Over all, this issue was one of the best yet.

Chris Connelly
7008 Appoline
Dearborn, MI 48126

Thanks very much, Chris. We really appreciate your comments. And, unless we're mistaken, a certain letter writer (who shall remain nameless . . .) seems to have "the hots" for a certain X-Person as well. Don't worry, we won't tell anybody!

Hey Crew,

First of all, I have to say that Erik Larsen draws one of the best Wolverines I've ever seen. MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #48, page 5, panel 4, makes Wolverine look badder than Leroy Brown. The facial expression alone is great! I think that Erik should definitely do more Wolvie comics, and a lot more cover art. Erik is a good writer too. Wow, what a package! The new MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS Wolverine versus Spider-Man is *the best* story in a long time! Well, until Wolverine hocks his skeleton in a pawn shop. Make Mine Marvel!

Victor Dupree
Fresno, CA

Glad you liked Erik's Wolverine, Victor, but badder than Leroy Brown? The one that's the baddest man in the whole downtown? That's pretty bad! Are you implying that you want him to fight King Kong and a junkyard dog, though? Oh well, just a thought. Let's just look at another letter before this joke gets any more out of hand.

Dear Terry,

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #48 was a real treat for me because of one particular story in the issue entitled "Object." I am an avid admirer of Eric Shanower's art and have tried to collect every piece of work that he has ever done since I first saw his samples. However, I ask this question: how recently is this story supposed to have taken place according to regular Marvel continuity? I noticed that when Janet shrunk down to wasp size, no antennae appeared on her forehead. Do these antennae always appear when she shrinks or just when she wills them to appear? Whether this is an unfortunate mistake on the part of Eric Shanower or a mistake of my own for not knowing enough about this character, I will always be a fan of his. I look forward to the ELSEWHERE PRINCE mini-series and would like to know if Eric will be doing any other projects for Marvel or Epic in the future?

This story was well-written with what I found to be a realistic look at emotions. The way Marc McLaurin portrayed the Wasp as well as the supporting characters added a touch of realism I unfortunately find little of in most books. His coloring also accentuated Eric's pencils perfectly. I hope to see more of this team.

As I write this, I would like to know if Kieron Dwyer will be doing more stories in the near future?

In conclusion, I would like to point out to you at Marvel and to all contributors to the comics field, what you do is no longer simply a form of entertainment, but a form of art as well. With the combination of literature and art in one medium, I can honestly say that you are all appreciated.

Steve Colle
10335 St. Hubert Apt. 3
Montreal, Quebec
Canada H2C 2H8

We're big fans of Eric's here too, and we're sure that you'll see more of his and Kieron Dwyer's work within these pages sometime in the near future. For now, though, we'll all just have to look at the aforementioned ELSEWHERE PRINCE, which is on sale as we speak, for Eric's work. We're sure everyone will like it as much as we do. As for Marcus McLaurin, we guarantee that you'll see more of his stuff. We just can't get rid of the guy!

WEREWOLF
BY NIGHT...
FACES OFF
AGAINST
JACK RUSSELL!
IRON
MAN
A TALE FROM
THE PAST!
SUB-
MARINER
VS.
THE OLD MAN
OF THE SEA!
Cockrum & Albrecht